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United States Attorney's Office
District of Minnesota**

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News Release

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3 indicted for growing marijuana

In separate indictments filed today in federal court, three Minnesotans were charged with growing large amounts of marijuana.

In the first indictment, Don Bui, 27, Maple Grove, was charged with one count of manufacturing more than 1,000 marijuana plants. It alleges that Bui grew the plants in his home between March and April of 2009.

In the second indictment, Than Van Le, 65, and Loi Thi Vu, 62, husband and wife, were each charged with one count of conspiracy to manufacture marijuana. It alleges they conspired to manufacture 100 or more marijuana plants in their St. Michael home between March and May of 2009.

If convicted, Bui faces a potential maximum penalty of life in prison. Le and Vu each faces a potential maximum penalty of 40 years in prison. All sentences are determined by a federal district court judge. Both of these cases are the result of investigations by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office and the West Metro Drug Task Force. They are being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney LeeAnn K. Bell.

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An indictment is a determination by a grand jury that there is probable cause to believe that offenses have been committed by a defendant. A defendant, of course, is presumed innocent until he or she pleads guilty or is proven guilty at trial.